

Vestry of Emmanuel Church
Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2014

Present: Rev. Eric Thompson, Jim Beyer, Andy Doliff, Rob Ekroth, Jen Enriquez, Bill Hoekwater, Penny Longo, Cindy Motl, Randy Valenta, Jamie Workman (Dorren Gertsen- Briand, clerk and Linda Brongel, Treasurer)

Absent: None.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm and Rev. Eric led us in prayer.

Motion to approve remaining minutes made and passed.

October 2014 Vestry meeting minutes amended and approved as such.

Treasurer and Finance

- Cash situation is still precarious
- Brat Trot raised \$3,284 to donate to BEDS
- Oktoberfest generated \$1,897 revenue for us
- We made a \$5,800 insurance payment this month
- \$1,366 payment to Dahme made from building reserve fund, but Bill thinks it should be from operating.
- We just received \$12,000 in pre-paid pledges not shown here, so we will be able to pay our diocesan pledge of \$1,600
- Priest-in-Charge moving expenses were \$7,500

The Treasurer's report was accepted.

Team Reports

Parish Life/Outreach (Jen, Penny)

- Thanksgiving baskets will be put together this Sunday. The outstanding item they need is \$25 gift certificates for turkeys.
- The committee decided to do one thing per quarter for the Quinn Center next year. During the first quarter, they will collect art supplies for them.

Facilities (Jamie)

Jamie brought two motions for discussion and voting (with full recognition that these would amount to deficit spending):

- Move to pay \$1300 to Dahme plumbing and heating for emergency repair work to boiler, circulation pump (past due from earlier this spring) and a broken toilet downstairs. This motion was passed.
- Move to repair / redo of window in undercroft. Motion is to approve up to \$790 for replacement of broken glass found during fall clean up day with glass block to be installed. After discussion the situation was determined to be stable with a plywood covering and this motion did not pass. Rev. Eric recognized Jamie's ¼ million TO-DO list, and suggested it be referred to the capital campaign committee for review and to assist planning.

Stewardship/Finance (Rob, Cindy)

- 48% of pledges are in. A letter of encouragement will now go out. Father Eric will write a letter as well.
- A process is being developed for donation of stocks from current members and visitors.
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Education (Jim, Andy, Sam)

- Report received as amended

Old Business

- Snow removal contract still being negotiated
- Roof loan will be discussed when Finance committee meets next week. Rev. Eric wants to carefully develop a narrative for fundraising that includes intentionality and vigilance. Don't catastrophize. Tell the truth with honest goals.
- No immediate solution for a new Treasurer. Linda is writing a job description which includes computer skills. Jim pointed out the job requires two different skill sets, those of a bookkeeper/comptroller and a treasurer. Jen asked if we could hire a bookkeeper.

New Business

- Deacon Bill agreed to manage the schedule for Minsters of Worship (Ushers, Sacraments, Alter Guild, etc)
- Calendar meetings will be held quarterly. Everyone agreed the recent meeting facilitated good communication between groups.

Wardens (Bill, Randy)

- Nothing to report

Priest-in-Charge (Rev. Eric)

- Motion was made to accept the following resolution:

Whereas, section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code specifies that the amount of a minister's compensation that is designated in advance by their employer as a housing

allowance is not taxable in computing federal income taxes to the extent that it is used to pay for actual expenses incurred in owning or renting a home or apartment, and, in the case of ministers who own their home, does not exceed the fair rental value and maintenance of the home; and

Whereas, The. Rev. John Eric Thompson is compensated by Emmanuel Episcopal Church in La Grange, IL exclusively for services as a minister, and

Whereas Emmanuel Episcopal Church does not provide the Rev. John Eric Thompson with a parsonage; therefore it is

Resolved that the total compensation paid to Rev. John Eric Thompson for the remainder of calendar year 2014 shall be \$27,833, of which \$6,958 is hereby designated as a housing allowance pursuant to section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code; and it is further

Resolved that the total compensation paid to Rev. John Eric Thompson for the calendar year 2015 shall be \$83,500, of which \$27,800 is hereby designated as a housing allowance pursuant to section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code.

- A Human Resources manual is being developed
- A Baptismal policy is being developed
- Father Eric had drafted an organizational chart and asked for comments on it. Jamie suggested presenting it at the Annual Meeting
- Seed ideas paper for church programming presented for thought

Meeting adjourned at 8:57pm. The next meeting will be held at Fr. Eric's home (1701 Sierra Highlands Court, Plainfield IL 60586) on Tuesday, December 16th, starting at 7pm with seasonal celebration to follow.